First Regular Session - 2015

IN THE SENATE

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 102

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE STATE OF IDAHO IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

We, your Memorialists, the Senate and the House of Representatives of the State of Idaho assembled in the First Regular Session of the Sixty-third Idaho Legislature, do hereby respectfully represent that:

WHEREAS, President Calvin Coolidge designated the Craters of the Moon National Monument in 1924 with the intent to eventually make it a national park, yet Idaho remains the only western state without a national park; and

WHEREAS, Craters of the Moon is the largest young basaltic lava field in the continental United States and has a stunning array of volcanism; and

WHEREAS, Craters of the Moon is an outstanding outdoor classroom that attracts thousands of students every year; and

WHEREAS, redesignating Craters of the Moon National Monument as a national park would greatly increase the number of visitors to Craters of the Moon, thereby greatly enhancing the economic development of Butte County, Blaine County and all surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, legislation to change the 54,000 acres of Craters of the Moon National Monument, as it existed prior to 2009, into a national park would not affect land use as allowed by the Bureau of Land Management and the National Park Service, such as hunting, grazing and any other multiple land use; and

WHEREAS, redesignating Craters of the Moon National Monument as a national park would not affect the park's boundaries, funding, management or park fees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Session of the Sixty-third Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Representatives concurring therein, that Congress should pass legislation redesignating Craters of the Moon National Monument as Craters of the Moon National Park for the betterment of the park, the surrounding communities and the people of Idaho.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate be, and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Memorial to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Congress, and the congressional delegation representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the United States.